



M. L.

Gc  
929.2  
St29372g  
1786730

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01393 5868













HISTORY  
OF THE  
*Canadian Stauffers*  
AND  
*Ancestors*



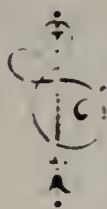
COAT OF ARMS  
CUP BEARER TO THE KING

---

1934



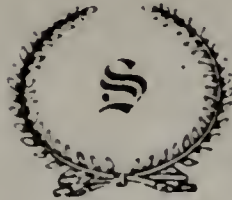
*History*  
OF THE  
*Canadian Stauffers*  
and *Ancestors*



*Compiled by C. T. GROH*



1786730



OFFICERS  
OF THE  
STAUFFER REUNION

JOSEPH STAUFFER, Galt  
*Hon. President*

HARLEY STAUFFER, Waterloo  
*President*

D. E. STAUFFER, Bright  
*Vice-President*

(Mrs.) IDA STAUFFER SNIDER, Waterloo  
*Sec-Treas.*

1786730 2-1-17 May





## Introduction

**I**N the publishing of this booklet an endeavor is being made to conserve such records as have been secured of the Stauffer generations in Switzerland, Germany, Pennsylvania, and Canada, dating back to over eleven hundred years.

This being as requested by the seven hundred descendants of the first Stauffer to settle in Waterloo County, in attendance at the fifth Stauffer Reunion, as held at Waterloo Park on July 7th, 1934.

In reading the history contained herein, it will become apparent that a grave mistake would have been made had these records of so noble a race remain unpublished.

Much credit is due Mr. Joseph Stauffer, of Galt, who, in 1925, crossed the ocean to visit Switzerland, the home of our ancestor Stauffers, for the purpose of learning as much as possible of their history in generations of the distant past, and in so doing secured the major portion of the history herein contained.

Credit is also due the late Ezra Eby for a portion of the history herein contained, as taken from his "Biographical History of Waterloo Township" as published in 1896. Of the Stauffers from as early a date as 1682, up to and including the history of Abraham, the progenitor of the Stauffers of Waterloo County, this portion is secured from Mr. Eby's records.





# Forefathers

## OF THE

### *Stauffers in Waterloo County*

THE progenitors of this numerous and widely spread family were born in Switzerland about the year 1682. Owing to the many trials and persecutions the Non-conformists were subjected to by the State Party, many bid adieu to their native homes and fled to places where shelter and protection, besides freedom of religion, were promised them. Among this number was old Martin Stauffer, who fled to Muckenhauserhof, Wurtemberg, Germany, where he resided with his wife and family until his death. Tradition has it that he died in 1735, and when dying he urged his family to emigrate to America. We could not ascertain the names of all his children, as some may have died before the father, but names of four have been received, namely: Christian, John, Mathias and Daniel. Not many years after the decease of old Martin, the mother, with her four sons and other co-religionists, emigrated to America in 1738 or 1739 and settled near Lititz, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where she died not many years after their arrival in the Land of the Free.

It is claimed that the mother was so crippled from rheumatism that she was unable to walk, thus compelling her sons to draw her by hand in a little waggon, expressly made for that purpose, from her home in Germany to the seaport, approximately 400 miles, where they set sail for America, and after their arrival in Philadelphia they had her conveyed through the wilderness from the place of landing to Hammer Creek, about four miles north of Lititz, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where they settled and founded a mill seat, known as Stauffer's mill.

ii. Stauffer, Christian, the eldest, was born in August, 1711. His family consisted of two sons, namely: iii. John and iii. Jacob.



ii. Stauffer, John, was born August 6th, 1715. He was married to Catherine Shenk. Their descendants are all to be found in Pennsylvania and other states.

ii. Stauffer, Mathias, was born in 1719. No information in regard to his family.

In coming from Philadelphia to Lancaster County, Mathias, the third son, was missed by the company. He strayed from the party while passing through a forest. It is supposed by some that he wended his way to the north east and finally settled in Montgomery or Chester County, while others think he was killed by Indians or died of starvation.

ii. Stauffer, Daniel, the youngest of the four sons was born in 1726. He, after arriving at maturity, settled near Lititz, Lancaster County, where he had a family of several children. None of the names of his family were received save that of one son named iii. Abraham.

\* \* \*

iii. Stauffer, Abraham, was born in November, 1748, and in 1780 he was married to Elizabeth Zug. After this marriage he settled near Lititz, Lancaster County, where he followed farming. To him was born a family of ten children, of which two sons, namely, Abraham and Samuel, became residents of Waterloo County in the early eighteen hundreds, and to them is credited as being the progenitors of the now numerous Stauffers in this County and other parts of Canada.

A very interesting story appeared in the Dumfries Reformer, published in Galt, about the year 1865, relative to a visit made by John Erb, Abraham Stauffer, and a third party, whose name was unknown, who came over to see the much talked-of Waterloo about the year 1803-04. This company met with an incident which was somewhat startling. As they were quietly riding past an Indian camp, a short distance below where now the City of Galt is located, one of the Indians, who had been indulging in "fire water" and was considerably intoxicated, rushed out and began to assail them in violent language. The strangers were unaccustomed to being treated thus, and becoming very much alarmed they rode off in haste. The Indian seeing this fired his musket





and shot Mr. Stauffer in the arm, though not seriously. The red man, "Indian Jack" as he was called, made himself scarce in the neighborhood after that as he was likely to have got into difficulty in consequence of his mad act. Messrs. Erb and Stauffer returned to Pennsylvania, and in the year 1805 Abraham Stauffer decided to emigrate to Canada, and settled on a farm near Blair. His wife was Catherine, daughter of John and Barbara (Freed) Biehn.

\* \* \*

Stauffer, Samuel, was born October 5th, 1782. He, in company with his brother and others, came to Canada and settled in Waterloo County, Ontario. He was married to Esther Groh, a sister to the late John Groh, who was the founder of the Grohs of Canada. They settled on a farm adjoining the Groh farm near Hespeler. To them were born ten children, viz.:

Stauffer, Isaac G., born Sept. 28th, 1807. He was married to Jane Tieter. They resided at Acton, Ontario, where he was engaged in farming, later disposing of their farm and moving near Gaines, Michigan.

Stauffer, Susannah, was married to Jacob Kinzie, a farmer. They resided near Ayr, Ont., later moving to Kent County, Michigan.

Stauffer, Elizabeth, was married to Samuel Betzner, a farmer. They resided two miles east of Breslau, Ont., where both died in later years.

Stauffer, Nancy, was married to John Master. They resided near New Dundee, Ontario.

Stauffer, Jacob, was born Jan. 17th, 1813. On March 25th, 1834, he was married to Elizabeth Mosser, who was born Jan. 29th, 1816. They resided in Blenheim Township, near Plattsville, where he died Nov. 27th, 1879.

Stauffer, Abraham, was married to Susannah Latsshaw, and resided near Stratsburg, Ontario, where she died of hydrophobia, leaving a family of five children. After her demise he was married to Magdalene Shupe. Soon after his second marriage he moved to near Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Stauffer, David G., was adopted by old Henry Erb, who resided near Dundas.

Stauffer, Catherine, was married to Jacob Block, a farmer. They resided in Southern Wilmot, where they both died.

Stauffer, Sallie, was married to Enos Janzen. They resided near Caledonia, Kent County, Michigan, where they both died.

Stauffer, Levi, died unmarried.

Stauffer, John G., was born Dec. 8th, 1824. On Dec. 3rd, 1851, he was married to Lucinda, daughter of Samuel and Ellzabeth (Gabel) Hammacher. She was born near Wilmot Center, Waterloo County, Sept. 6th, 1834. They resided in Oxford County, three miles south of Plattsville, Ontario, where he died Dec. 5th, 1887. After his decease Mrs. Stauffer moved to Berlin.

\* \* \*

Stauffer, Abraham, a brother of Samuel, was born Aug. 1st, 1788. When a young man he was married to Catherine, daughter of John and Barbara (Freed) Biehn. She was born in 1785 and died in 1869. They resided on the farm now owned by Mr. Bear, near Doon, Ontario, where they raised their family. He died about the year 1858. To them were born six children, viz.:—

Eli, married to Lydia Ellenbaum. They resided at Lucknow.

Elizabeth, married to David Gingrich.

John, married to Hannah, daughter of Daniel and Barbara (Wismer) Schlichter. They resided near Haysville.

Abraham died young, aged about twenty years.

Catherine, married to Joel Good.

Joseph, married to Nancy Bowman. They resided at Blair.

NOTE—As stated in the Introduction to this booklet that much credit was due Mr. Joseph Stauffer for securing much important history of the Stauffers, while in Switzerland, we here give the information as secured by him. As an in-





troduction to this chapter we here give a letter which was mailed to him from Berne, Switzerland, bearing the date October 29th, 1925, which reads as follows:

Berne, Switzerland, October 29th, 1925.

Mr. Joseph Stauffer, Galt, Canada.

Dear Mr. Stauffer:

Here the Chronicle of the Stauffers which you asked me to compile for you on the occasion of your visit to Berne on the 12th August, 1925. It was not your wish to hear of the many Stauffers of the present day.

As a matter of fact, the Stauffers are mentioned by Tacitus as far back as the Fifth Century, but the information is so uncertain I have refrained from giving it.

The record I give you is not complete. It could not be, since by the many invasions of the foe and the often change of rulers, much valuable material and many records have been lost or destroyed.

Such information as I give you is accurate and correct. I have carefully translated it from the original, which was, of course, in the ancient Gallic and Celtic, the French and the German. Many words, as is the case in the name of Months of the Year, Measures, Weights and Values I am giving you on a separate page. These words do not exist today.

A number of single translations from the old Court and Archive records are also extra, as well as the copies of the Coats of Arms of the various lines of Stauffers.

It would take not only months but years to write in full of the Family Stauffer, since they are so many and so scattered. This would not be in accordance with your wishes. This little Chronicle well serve to show you that the Stauffers of old were worthy of all respect from those of the present generation.



I am indebted to many friends and well wishers of the Canadian Stauffers for their help in this little work. These few pages may not seem much to you but they represent much care in their preparing.

The memory of your courteous behavior to me, during the short hours of your visit to Berne, has made it a very great pleasure for me to do the work. I hope it will give you a small share to read it.

I am, my dear Mr. Stauffer,

Very sincerely yours,

DOROTHY MOLL.

MRS. DOROTHY MOLL,

Pension Bois Fleury,

Berne, Switzerland.

A careful study of such facts as you gave me concerning the Stauffer from which you are a descendant, proves you to be of the Stauffers from Seeland. Coat of arms enclosed.

Personally helped by the following friends:

Professor von Mandach, Berne Art Gallery.

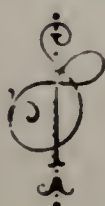
Archive Director Kurz, Berne.

Professor Schroder, Zurich.

Mr. C. von Steiger, Berne, Historian.

Professor E. Meyer, Berne.

N.B.—“Quentin Durward” by Walter Scott, describes Charles the Bold, and the Siege of Murten. Mentions Stauffer.







## *Early Records and History*

OF

### *The Stauffers*

---

ON a half island of the river Aare, facing the majesty of the Bernese Alps, lies the Canton and City Berne, of Switzerland, the Helvetia of olden times, the birthplace of the Stauffers.

The name is probably Celtic; perhaps in some of its changes, Germanic. It is spelled in various ways: Stauffer, Stoffer, Staufen, Stofen and the great Hohenstaufen, who gave the world the mighty Kings and Kaisers of Allemane, the Germany of to-day—at that time composed of Helvetia, Burgundy and Allemane.

The first Stauffer probably saw the light of day in the rocky recesses of the Staufen, a mountain about 3800 feet high in the Canton Berne near Rothenbach, and took his name, as was then the custom, from the place where he was born.

Of this first Stauffer, of whom reference is made in the ancient Chronicle of the City of Berne, we know very little. The date is 827 A.D. The thousand year old parchments and scrolls are dim with age. The writing, laboriously done by some patient monk in the ancient Celtic language, is barely discernible. Only a student of the ancient languages could decipher with certainty the contents. We are only told that this Stauffer was a mighty warrior, a brave and valorous man. From 827 to 1200, the name Stauffer occurs repeatedly in the annals of history and battle.

The Stauffers are never mentioned as Serfs, always as Freemen.

The name Stauffer, literally translated, means "Step" or "Heights." Hohenstaufen means "those who live on the heights", having of course reference to the Stauffers who lived









high up in the recesses of the mountains, where they were best able to protect themselves from the inroads of the common foe.

We have today, Hinterstaufen, Vorderstaufen, Staufenweidle and Staufenmoos, all with bearing upon their geographical position.

Those were hard and bitter times and men partook of them in their character. Helvetia, the Switzerland of to-day, had foes on every side.

On the North, the mighty and ever quarrelsome Allemane, the Germany of to-day. On the South, the persistent on-march of the Romans. To the East, the powerful Hapsburgs, and toward the setting sun the turbulent Gauls of Burgundy.

The Stauffers were of necessity men of war. A glance at the Coat of Arms of the various Stauffers serves to show how many and varied were the Kings and Kaisers, Counts and Barons, with whom by right of birth and service they took sides against the many foes.

It was at that time customary for the retainers to wear the colors and carry the Coat of Arms of the men for whom they fought as freemen.

Of these Stauffers, one and all, History says: "The Stauffers, brave and valorous men, true to their King, a good friend and an honest enemy." These are words for the descendants of those Stauffers of a thousand years ago to read and remember with pride and as a priceless heritage.

This first Stauffer, of whom the meagre details of History only says that he was brave and valorous, lived A.D. 827. His name was Klaus Stauffer. Klaus, meaning "Retreat or place of safety," and Staufen, the mountain in whose rocky clefts he saw his first dawn.

Then follow in the interval of three centuries: Dottmar, Ulrich, Henni, Gunther, Emmanuel and Luitpold Stauffer, of whom the Chronic says that "These Stauffers were all great warriors; they stood true to their King." One of these was Ulrich Stauffer, who in driving back an attack of the Gallic legions belonging to Lothar of Burgundy, was captured. Lothar, the King of Burgundy, was so impressed by the pres-



ence and valor of Ulrich Stauffer that he detained him and kept him in his service, giving him the title of Count of Burgundy.

Ulrich Stauffer was granted by the Gallic King the Coat of Arms now carried by the Stauffers of Signau: A white Spear with the Golden Lilies (Fleur de Lys of the present Standard of France).

The second Stauffer, of whom we hear, is Luitpold, A.D., 938, who because of his great learning and upright character was chosen by King Rudolph to be Bishop of his Monastery in Scherzlingen, not one stone of which remains to show where this wise and good Stauffer lived and worked for over fifty years.

Then follows Klaus Stauffer, Bishop of Kloster Ruggis-lurg, of the Order of Holy Benedict. This Kloster was built, 1076 A.D., by Count Luitpold, of Rumlinger.

This Klaus Stauffer was not only a holy man—he was a very brilliant man of letters. Many of his manuscripts written by hand and illuminated in the most wonderful coloring are to be found in the Louvre in Paris. Two, with designs of the exquisite stone work of the altar in his Kloster in Ruggisburg, are in the British Museum in London.

Claudius Stauffer, whose integrity was so great that he was called to many Royal Courts to adjust the various quarrels of those troubled days, was elected by the men of Oberhasli Valley to represent them in what was then the Parliament of Helvetia.

It was his irreproachable character which caused him to be elected Obmann or President of what at that time, 1242 A.D., was the Supreme Court of Helvetia.

In A.D. 1172 we read of Arnold Stauffer who followed Count Ulrich of Lentzberg in the train of Kaiser Konrad as Crusader to the Holy Land, and for his brave and loyal help was made Duke of Toscania.

In 1292, the three Cantons, Uri, Unterwalden and Schwys, determined to form a band against the common foe. This





band was the beginning of what is now the Swiss Republic or Confederation.

Three Stauffers were elected by the people to represent their interests. Henni, Hansli and Joseph Stauffer served until their death. The record says "They were honest and upright men."

In the Siege of Mürten by Interlaken in 1476, Karl Joseph Stauffer fought side by side with Adrian von Bubenburg, and with fifteen hundred men of the Canton Berne held the fort and won the day against Karl, the Daring, of Burgundy, with eight thousand men.

Of this Karl Joseph Stauffer the City of Berne had until 1774 various pictures, crude, but more or less valuable. During the French Invasion of that year the pictures were either destroyed or taken as booty to Paris. This has been the fate of most articles of value in Switzerland. In the Louvre, Karl Joseph Stauffer is seen in dented armor, worn and haggard from the long siege. Underneath are the words he spoke to the starving soldiers on the last day before the final struggle that won the day for Stauffer and Bubenburg. "My life for my King and my Country. My soul for my God."

Of this Stauffer, monuments are to be found in nearly every city of Switzerland.

And so down through the centuries we follow the Stauffers.

There was Killian Stauffer, Brother Killian in the Monastery and Chronic records. Born in Beromünster, Canton Lucerne, between 1649 and 1659. One of the greatest sculptors the world has ever known in the Church altar sculptury. Killian Stauffer was made Bishop of Schonau. The Chronic says, Brother Killian died on the 29th, Brach month, (June) after fifty years in the Kloster, "loved by all."

Then follows the goods deeds of a woman.

Elodie Kirkenroth Stauffer, daughter of Johann Gottlieb Stauffer and Menchant Stauffer, his wife. Born in Marseille, a descendant of the famous Ulrich Stauffer, Elodie Stauffer





Karl Joseph Stauffer





founded in Rothenbach, the cradle of the Stauffer Family, the Hospital of St. Ursula. The Chronic says: "Christians, pray for her soul, she did good all her life."

Then, Gottlieb Ludwig Stauffer, son of Rudolf and Maria Rosina, born 1625. A famous Physician. A statue of this Gottlieb Stauffer is in Lucerne.

Samuel Ulysses Karl Stauffer, son of Eugene Karl Stauffer, Judge of the Supreme Court in Thun. 1692—1722.

Walter Stauffer. Interlaken. Date of birth not certain, Builder and Architect. This Walter Stauffer designed in the 17th Century the beautiful Church of St. Michael in Lucerne.

Gottlieb Stauffer, Man of Letters and Judge of the Court in Gampeln. 17th Century.

Elcanor Anna Stauffer, 17th Century. Founded a Hospital for the "Halt and the Blind" in Laupen, Canton Berne. The Chronic calls her "The ministering Angel of St. Elfrid."

Down through the centuries we find the Stauffers in the various Cantons of the northern Switzerland occupying positions of honor and trust. The Chronic mentions the name of three hundred Stauffers who held Government and Diplomatic positions between the years 1690 and 1825. Then a long list of Stauffers who fought and fell for their country. In the Cathedral of Berne is a marble Tablet erected to the three hundred men who fell during the last invasion of the French in 1798. The Tablet bears the following inscription:

"In Memory of those who fell for their country  
in the disastrous year 1798.

The list contains the names of four Stauffers.

David Stauffer from Rothenbach.

Christian Stauffer from Landiswyl.

Johannes Stauffer from Rütli.

Hans Stauffer from Rütli.

Of these four Stauffers, Christian, from Landiswyl, was placed with a small number of men to defend the ancient Rathaus or Town Hall with its many valuable contents, from



the enemy. The French stormed the entrance again and again, until at last Stauffer with his handful of men was cut down, man by man, by a force five times larger.

Christian Stauffer fell at his post. His blood stained the stairs of the Rathaus where this little history was written and in whose walls the Archive stands which contains the thousand year old record of "The Stauffers."

The flag which he carried that day and for which he gave his life's blood, floats, ragged and torn from battle, in the faint breeze from the open Cathedral windows, in the dim aisles of the ancient House of God.

Christian was a descendant of The Sigriswyl Stauffers, whose ancestors fought in the Crusades. It is the Crusader emblem, a Heart and Half Moon, on a red shield.

In this, the last attack of the French, it is interesting to read the inventory that was taken in the Council Hall after their departure. All that was left of War Trophies, Pictures, Furniture and all that constitutes the possessions of a peaceable and well to do town was:

Special printed matter in the possession of the City Hall and Archives of Berne.

"Leaves from the History of Berne. Art and Ancient History. The Rathaus of Berne." from the Director of the States Archive of Berne, Mr. G. Kurz.

"The Inventory of the Rathaus of Berne, 1798."

One clock, one silver basin, one oak table, three oak chairs—one bearing the Coat of Arms of Count Berchthold von Zahringe, the Founder of Berne—"An eagle bearing a crown." The second chair bears the Coat of Arms of Berne, "The Bear." The third chair bears the date 1668.

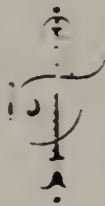
Twelve brass screws, one leather cushion, one oak bench, one lantern, two warming pans, made of tin; six candlesticks, three snuffers, one bed, one green curtain, one Bible with silver decorations—"Hidden." These articles with several chairs and a table designated as "old" about fill out the inventory.





Even the Bears of the famous Berner Bearpit were placed in baskets and sent to Paris as "Prisoners of War."

The frequent invasions of the various enemies will serve to show that the Records of to-day are so incomplete because each invasion brought the loss of State and Municipal Documents. Those Berne possesses today is due to the vigilance of the officials who, at the coming of the enemy, secreted such as seemed of the greatest importance to the coming generations.







## *Stauffers* *of More Modern Times*

**W**E have now reached the beginning of eighteen hundred, and this little history has to deal with the Stauffers of more modern times. In the Council Hall hangs in frames of massive gold a list of the men who have served as President of the City Council of Berne. Here we find:

Bartholme Immanuel Stauffer, 1803. Served his city thirty years. Johannes Stauffer, Member of Parliament, as Nationalrat, 1848. Innumerable Stauffers have served the State, the Canton and the City in their various capacities as officials, not to forget the many Stauffers who up to to-day are members of the Standing Army as Officers, Pilets and Engineers.

We find Stauffers in the list of Diplomats and Consuls; Stauffers as Physicians; Professors on the various Universities and Schools of Technic; members of the State Board of Jurisprudence; owners of various Industries; and many well known and prosperous men of business. The President, as well as one of the City Council of Berne to-day, are Stauffers. I have been able to ascertain that there are in Switzerland at the present time several thousand Stauffers.

The most famous Stauffer of this century was a Stauffer who came of a family of men of the Church. His forefathers had occupied the position as Bishops of various dioceses many times. He himself was fitted out with talents given only to the very few. We read with the greatest admiration of his work. We remember with sadness the early death of

**KARL STAUFFER,**  
**Artist and Sculptor.**

Born September 2, 1857, Trubschachen, Emmenthal,  
Canton Berne.

Died in Florence, Italy, January 24, 1891.



The works of Karl Stauffer number about ninety Oil Paintings, which, with the exception of about six in the possession of the family or intimate friends, are in the Art Gallery of Berne.

Portraits to the number of thirty-seven, including Black and White Drawings, are also in the Berne Gallery.

Steel engravings, sixteen in number, form a very valuable collection. Karl Stauffer, shortly before his death, had left painting, for which he was renowned, and proposed to take up sculptury.

At his early death he left only one piece finished, that, however, shows the hand of the Master.

It represents Adrian von Bubenburg, who, with Karl Joseph Stauffer, was the hero of the Battle and Siege of Mürten, in his coat of mail and carrying the sword that brought the victory.

Karl Stauffer at the time of his death was engaged upon a similar statue to the memory of Karl Joseph Stauffer. It is in the possession of the Stauffers in England. The finished statue is considered the most valuable possession of the Berne Art Gallery.

The greatest Painter and Sculptor of his Century, he departed at the dawn of his success.

The plain stone erected to his memory in the Campo Santo agli, Allori, Florence, bears only the words:

“Here rests, broken with the Battle of Life”

**KARL STAUFFER.**





## *First Stauffer Re-Union*

The following is a clipping taken from "The Galt Daily Reporter" under date of Thursday, Aug. 25th, 1904, and reads as follows:—

### **To-day and a Century Ago.**

**Stauffer family to the number of 600 celebrate important anniversary.**

**A semi-centennial immense gathering at the home of Rev. Noah Stauffer, near Doon, on Wednesday.**

In 1804, just one hundred years ago, the Stauffer family settled in what is now Waterloo County. On Wednesday, the centennial of this settlement was most successfully celebrated at the home of Rev. Noah Stauffer, near Doon, where over 600 persons, descendants of the original settlers, gathered to fittingly commemorate the advent in this district of their progenitors. In the 600 people present, five states of the Union were represented, and almost every town and city in Ontario, and some of the guests, indeed, were from the far away Canadian West. It was, as has been said, a Centennial re-union to mark the anniversary of the arrival in Canada of "Grandfather" Stauffer, who came from Pennsylvania on horseback and located on the present Stauffer homestead, where the celebration took place.

The idea of holding such a re-union originated with Rev. Noah Stauffer and an informal little meeting was held about two months ago in the Market Hotel, Berlin. A committee was appointed to locate as many of the scattered members of the "Freundschaft" as they could, and invitations were sent out to all of them. The committee that had this work in hand was composed of Mr. Levi Stauffer, Levi H. Stauffer, Jacob S. Gingrich, Mrs. Sam. Hilborn, Mrs. Jos. Stauffer, Rev. Noah Stauffer, and Josiah Stauffer. The latter was the secretary, and upon him devolved the major part of the work. The committee did its work well and has reasons to be gratified with the success which attended their efforts. From nine





o'clock in the morning until after noon the guests began to arrive. The stable room was soon overtaxed and ere long every stable in the vicinity was filled. To feed so great a gathering of people was an enormous task. The committee bought all the supplies necessary and brought them to the homestead. None of the guests brought any catables. The good things were prepared by Mrs. Stauffer and her assistants, and the dinner was served on the threshing floor of the big barn. The sides of the mow were covered with evergreens and a big welcome banner greeted the diners as they stepped across the threshold. The two long tables seated about 135 persons at a time. While at luncheon a collection was lifted to defray the expenses incurred and the surplus, if any, is to be given to some charitable institution.

About three o'clock the friends were called together under one of the patriarch apple trees on the side of a slope in the big yard, to hear the speeches. Mr. Levi Stauffer was the chairman and nearest him on big arm chairs, and on easy high backed benches, sat the elder and infirm people. Mr. Joel Good, of Woolwich, aged 86, was said to be the oldest person present. Among others there were Mrs. Barbara Shantz, Philipsburg, aged 82; Mrs. Margaret Neville, Toronto, 82; and a number of others around the score mark. Mr. Stauffer explained the object of the giant gathering: To do honor to the memories of their forefathers. In describing it as an enthusiastic gathering he felt sure he voiced the sentiments of all who heard him. Those brave men and women, one hundred years ago, in entering this country, took their lives in their hands, but the wilderness smiled under their efforts and they left behind them a glorious heritage. The Stauffer family of to-day had a right to revere the memories of their antecedents and to hold a full consciousness of their birth-rights, a land that could not be excelled, free from war and pestilence, free in its worship, and alluring in its prospects.

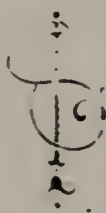
Mr. Stauffer, in conclusion, extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. The reply to this was a brief but eminently capable one, and it came from the eloquent Rev. Byron H. Stauffer, pastor of a large Buffalo congregation.



Rev. Noah Stauffer, on whose farm the reunion was held, and who was in fact the originator of the reunion idea, was next called upon, and read a very interesting and valuable sketch of the history of the Stauffer family.

Other speakers were: John F. Masters, of Washington, Ontario; Alderman C. T. Groh, Hespeler; Dr. L. L. Stauffer, New Dundee; Joseph Stauffer, Galt; D. K. Erb, M.P., Sebringville.

Note--In the above clipping we have omitted the history of the Stauffers as given by Rev. Noah Stauffer as it has been engrossed in previous chapters.





71 150-57

23

30

END







